(c) Proposals received from the State Government are examined and decided as per provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981 and guidelines issued under the Act.

Extinction of Hangul Deer in the country

3595. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that hangul deer is facing extinction in the country; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the measures taken for their safety ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir. At present Hangul is classified as a 'vulnerable taxa' but not facing danger of extinction.

(b) During 1970 the Hangul Project was taken up by IUCN and WWF in Jammu and Kashmir. The efforts yielded dividends and the population of Hangul rose from 140 in 1970 to 482 in 1983. A management cum ecological programme was formulated in 1980 which envisages among other things, total protection against grazing, improvement of fodder and immunity from diseases in the Hangul habitat. Hangul deer is also protected under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and is placed in Schedule I giving the species maximum possible protection.

"Grip of Militants in Manas National Park—near Barpeta"

3596. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Manas National Park near Barpeta has been under the grip of militants and there have been many incidents of attack on the security staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that rhino horns, ivory and arms and ammunition had been looted recently from the tiger project range office on the periphery of the Park; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and action Government propose to take to provide adequate security and open the Park to the tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The park is partly under the grip of militants.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The latest incident occured on 3-3-93 at 9.30 P.M. in Bansbari Range Office, where a group of armed miscreants after assaulting the Range Officer and holding other staff at gun point, decamped with 9 Nos. of Rhino horns, 4 Nos. of Rifles, 8 Nos. of guns and cash amounting to Rs. 2.20 lakhs approximately. Deployment of extra para-military personnel for providing adequate security is under consideration of the State Government. The park will be considered to be opened for tourists after the law and order situation there improves.

"वर्तमान पारिस्थिति की कृतिक बलों में रोजगार"

3597. श्री अजीत जोगी :
श्री छोटूभाई पटेल :

क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में वनरोपण के लिए कठिन वर्तमान पारिस्थिति की कृतिक बलों में से प्रत्येक में कुल कितने-कितने कर्मचारी हैं,

(ख) इन बलों में रोजगार देने हेतु क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किये गये हैं,

(ग) इन बलों पर कौन-कौन से प्राधिकारी प्रशासनिक और वित्तीय नियंत्रण करते हैं;

(घ) क्या इन बलों को इनके अच्छे कार्य निष्पादन के बावजूद समाप्त किये जाने की संभावना है, और